

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
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TAGS: ECOSOC, PDEV, AF
SUBJECT: 1978 SUMMER ECOSOC: ITEM 28 8 IMPLEMENTATION
BY UN AGENCIES OF DECLARATION ON GRANTING INDEPENDENCE
TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REF: A) GENEVA 10283, B) GENEVA 10308, C) STATE 172373,
D) STATE 172851

1. G-77 RESOLUTION REPORTED REFTEL A WAS ADOPTED BY
CONSENSUS IN THIRD (COORDINATION) COMMITTEE JULY 10,
FOLLOWING WHICH UK, US, FRG, FRANCE, ITALY AND JAPAN MADE
EXPLANATIONS OF RESERVATIONS.

2. UK STATED THAT THE RESOLUTION'S REFERENCES TO MORAL AND
MATERIAL ASSISTANCE TO BE PROVIDED BY UN AGENCIES WERE
AMBIGUOUS AND THAT UK CONSIDERED THAT SUCH ASSISTANCE
SHOULD BE OF A TECHNICAL AND HUMANITARIAN NATURE; THAT THE
ENDORSEMENT IN PARA 1 DID NOT IMPLY SUPPORT FOR EVERY
RECOMMENDATION IN THE ECOSOC PRESIDENT'S REPORT; THAT UN
AGENCIES MUST WORK WITHIN THE LIMITATIONS OF THEIR OWN
CONSTITUTIONS; AND THAT THE REFERENCE TO NATIONAL LIBERA-
TION MOVEMENTS APPLIED SOLELY TO THOSE IN ZAMBABWE AND
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NAMIBIA.

3. THE US MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: QUOTE: MY
DELEGATION HAS JOINED THE CONSENSUS IN APPROVING THIS
RESOLUTION IN A SPIRIT OF SYMPATHY WITH THE ASPIRATIONS
OF THE PEOPLES OF ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA AND OF SUPPORT
FOR PROMPT AND PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE.

WE DO HAVE SOME PROBLEMS, HOWEVER, WITH SOME OF THE LANGUAGE OF THE RESOLUTION CONCERNING DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO BE PROVIDED BY U.N. AGENCIES TO NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA, AS THIS LANGUAGE IS INSUFFICIENTLY CLEAR. THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS THE EXTENSION OF ASSISTANCE OF A HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENTAL NATURE THAT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE WELLBEING OF THE PEOPLES OF ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA AND PROVIDE A PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE. IN OUR VIEW, SUCH ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL QUALIFIED PERSONS, WITHOUT REGARD TO POLITICAL AFFILIATION, WHO USE IT FOR LEGITIMATE NON-MILITARY ENDS.

IT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR, MOREOVER, THAT ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY U.N. AGENCIES MUST BE STRICTLY IN ACCORD WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL MANDATES OF THOSE ORGANIZATIONS AND SHOULD BE CAREFULLY CONTROLLED AND MONITORED BY THEM. U.N. AGENCIES SHOULD ASSURE THAT THEIR ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES GUARANTEE ADHERENCE TO THE ABOVE PRINCIPLES.

WITH RESPECT TO OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 1 WHICH ENDORSES THE OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ECOSOC, MY DELEGATION WISHES TO STATE THAT OUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS CONSENSUS DOES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT MEAN THAT WE SUPPORT EVERY DETAIL OF THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS. THERE ARE A FEW POINTS THAT GIVE US PROBLEMS, ALTHOUGH THERE IS MUCH WITH WHICH WE AGREE.

MY DELEGATION AGAIN WISHES TO EXPRESS THE SINCERE HOPE OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR PEACEFUL CHANGE AND RACIAL HARMONY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. END QUOTE'

4. FRG AND FRANCE ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH THE US AND UK STATEMENTS, FRANCE ADDING THAT IT WOULD HAVE ABSTAINED HAD THERE BEEN A VOTE. ITALY ASSOCIATED ITSELF WITH THE OTHER EEC SPEAKERS WITH RESPECT TO THE RESOLUTION'S ENDORSEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT. JAPAN STATED ASSISTANCE TO NLM'S SHOULD BE NON-MILITARY AND THAT AS LONG AS SOUTH AFRICA REMAINED A UN MEMBER IT WAS ENTITLED TO THE MINIMUM PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP.

5. DEBATE WHICH PRECEDED ADOPTION REPORTED SEFTTEL. VANDEN HEUVEL

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